

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore MD 21230 410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101 • www.mde.maryland.gov

Larry Hogan Governor

Boyd Rutherford Lieutenant Governor Ben Grumbles Secretary

January 28, 2016

Dear Current Resident:

This letter is to advise you that the Maryland Department of the Environment (the Department) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have opened an investigation concerning the validity of Lead-Free Certificates issued by a private inspection contractor, who issued a certificate for the property in which you reside. The Department and EPA are investigating whether the contractor followed the correct inspection protocols and whether the properties inspected are, in fact, lead free.

At this time, it has not been determined that there are lead paint hazards in your home. In the future, you may be visited by a government representative or contractor seeking access to your property for further testing. This person must present proper credentials before entering the property. If you have children living in your property under the age of 6 years, the Department and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene advise you to consult with your primary care physician regarding the need for children residing or frequenting the property to be lead tested. In an effort to facilitate the investigation, the Department is asking you to complete the following survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/S98LXGL. If you are unable to access the survey please contact the Department at 410-537-3825.

The Department is the lead State agency responsible for preventing childhood lead poisoning in Maryland. Since Maryland's lead law was enacted in 1994, the number of childhood lead poisoning cases in the State has decreased by 98 percent. The Department is advising you of this investigation out of an abundance of caution.

For more information please visit the Department's website at www.mde.maryland.gov/lead and select the Parents link for detailed information on lead poisoning prevention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Michelle Armiger at 410-537-3825 or by email at michelle.armiger@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Hilary Miller, Director

Land Management Administration

cc: Dr. Clifford Mitchell, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Mr. Harry Daw, US Environmental Protection Agency